



Clear Creek Canal



FEATURES

- 4.5 miles one way
- Easy to moderate
- Trail is part of an historic water ditch
- Great views

TRAIL HEAD DIRECTIONS

Starting at the Whiskeytown Visitor Center, drive south on Kennedy Memorial Drive towards Whiskeytown Dam. The road forks. Take the left fork which changes names to Paige Bar Road. Do not take the right fork over the dam. The trailhead and parking lot are about one mile farther on the left, across from Peltier Valley Road. The trail begins on the north side of the parking lot.

TRAIL DESCRIPTION

This trail winds through the landscape first heading north, crossing the paved road, then circling back to the south.

This trail is relatively flat and meanders along parts of a historic water ditch that was once part of the Clear Creek Water Ditch. The steepest part climbs about a 0.25 miles out of Orofino Creek. Watch for trees across the trail and in the spring, several seasonal creeks that flow across the trail.

A short distance after the start of the trail is a fork, take the right fork. The trail parallels Paige Bar Road as it makes its way north.

During the winter and other periods of heavy rainfall, areas along the water ditch have a tendency to hold large puddles of standing water.

At approximately 0.5 miles, the trail crosses Paige Bar Road and turns back toward the south. Here visitors can get a good view of Whiskeytown Dam and Clear Creek flowing from underneath it. As the trail turns toward the south, Clear Creek can be heard below.

After an additional 0.75 miles the trail crosses Peltier Valley Road. Continue on until coming to a service road with a gate. Follow the service road down past the gate and then pick up the trail on the left.

Here, the path passes through oak woodlands, mixed chaparral and pine forests. The trail will again cross Paige Bar Road, just below the cemetery. At this point, the trail merges with the Mount Shasta Mine Loop trail for a short distance. After a short ascent, look to the right for the trail sign, Clear Creek Canal Trail. The path continues on in a level manner.

Soon running water is heard again as the path approaches Orofino Creek (pictured at right). Once at the creek the trail takes a steep



View of Whiskeytown Dam from trail.

climb downhill, crosses the creek and heads west. Once at the top, notice the views of Shasta Bally and Kanaka Peak.

The trail soon crosses Muletown Road and continues on for a short distance into an area treated with prescribed fire in 2004. The trail ends at Salt Creek and Mule Town Road.





A MINER'S DITCH



This original water ditch was over 41 miles long and started near the Tower House Historic District and ended in what is now south Redding.

The ditch was used by miners from the 1860's until the 1880's in their quest for gold.



RESTORING FOREST HEALTH

Throughout the hike visitors will notice the impact of recent fire in the area. Several prescribed burns have occurred in this area to reduce hazardous fuels and restore forest health. Visitors will notice black trees and dead brush, but they will also notice new growth of herbaceous plants and how open the forest is.

Before



After

